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waited on Governor Hughes suggesting that the State Legislature give some official recognition to the Peace Congress to be held in New York beginning on the 14th of this month, that the Legislature provide for official representation in the Congress, and that a suitable appropriation be made for the entertainment of the delegates from other states and from abroad. We have not heard what action has been taken in response to the suggestion.

. . . In our last issue we mentioned the action of the Cincinnati chamber of commerce in approving the propositions put forward last year by the Mohonk Arbitration Conference for discussion at the Hague Conference, namely, a general treaty of arbitration, the creation of a permanent congress of the nations, and the limitation and, if possible, the reduction of armaments. We have since learned from H. C. Phillips, secretary of the Mohonk Conference, that more than fifty chambers of commerce, boards of trade, etc., have taken similar action, the list including the business organizations in most of the larger cities.

. . . The Federal Council of Switzerland has voted a subvention of one thousand francs to the International Peace Bureau at Berne for its work for the current year.

. . . The Agent of the American Bible Society in Japan writes that "the liberal donation of money on the part of Christians in the United States and elsewhere has not only made a deep impression on the minds of the famine sufferers, but also on the nation, as evidence of the Christian spirit of unselfish devotion to the welfare of mankind, regardless of creed and race."

. . . At the peace meeting in London on the 22d of February, held in the studio of Mr. Felix Moscheles, Mr. W. T. Stead, just home from his European peace trip, among other things said: "We are in an enchanted forest, where nothing is real. In Germany the strongest supporter of Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman's peace policy is the Chancellor, Prince Bülow. The German Emperor is thought to be a menace to the peace of the world. That is all bosh,—but no greater bosh than the ideas prevailing in Germany concerning King Edward, who is described as a Black Magician, weaving spells for the destruction of the German fleet."

. . . It is proposed to "buy, repair and forever maintain the home of the Rev. S. F. Smith (author of 'America') as a memorial of him and as an object lesson in patriotism and love of country." Everybody everywhere is invited to contribute twenty-five cents, and to send it in stamps, if that is more convenient, to D. C. Heath, secretary Smith Memorial Committee, 120 Boylston Street, Boston. This is the kind of monument in which the friends of peace believe, and they will be all the more inclined to contribute in this instance as "America" is the only national hymn, so far as we know, which is entirely free from any suggestion of war or glorification of the war spirit.

. . . The British government has just had its present navy appraised and has found its value to be six hundred and seventy million dollars.

The Reign of Violence is O'er.

(From Longfellow's "The Oscultation of Orion.")

Then through the silence overhead,
An angel with a trumpet said,
"Forevermore, forevermore,
The reign of violence is o'er!"
And, like an instrument that flings
Its music on another's strings,
The trumpet of the angel cast
Upon the heavenly lyre its blast,
And on from sphere to sphere the words
Reechoed down the burning chords,—
"Forevermore, forevermore,
The reign of violence is o'er!"

Peace.

BY KENNETH BRUCE.

Not for thee, proud Holland, is the boast
Of peace fulfilled, nor yet has Hague's fair name
Been hailed as leader of that honored host
Who sought through war's quick death enduring fame.
Thy patriot's fervor humbled haughty Spain;
Thy ocean-bulwarks bade her bow the knee;
But peace 'twixt man and man thou could'st not gair;
Thy precious gift belongs to Liberty.

To thee, Columbia, Goddess of the Free!
The nations turn and raise their suppliant prayer;
Strike gun from fort and ship, till every sea
Shall fling fair freedom's banner to the air.
Then shall the nations rest and fierce war cease,
Lapped in the arms of Universal Peace.

The Hague Conference and the Limitation of Armaments.

BY THE BRITISH PRIME MINISTER.

From the "Nation," the New Liberal Weekly.

The disposition shown by certain powers, of whom Great Britain is one, to raise the question of the limitation of armaments at the approaching Hague Conference, has evoked some objections both at home and abroad, on the ground that such action would be ill-timed, inconvenient and mischievous. I wish to indicate, as briefly as may be, my reasons for holding these objections to be baseless.

It should be borne in mind that the original Conference at The Hague was convened for the purpose of raising this very question, and in the hope that the powers might arrive at an understanding calculated to afford some measure of relief from an excessive and ever-increasing burden. The hope was not fulfilled, nor was it to be expected that agreement on so delicate and complex a matter would be reached at the first attempt; but, on the other hand, I have never heard it suggested that the discussion left behind it any injurious consequences. I submit that it is the business of those who are opposed to the renewal of the attempt to show that some special and essential change of circumstances has arisen, such as to render unnecessary, inopportune, or positively mischievous, a course adopted with general approbation in 1898.

Nothing of the kind has, so far as I know, been attempted, and I doubt if it could be undertaken with any hope of success. It was desirable in 1898 to lighten the burden of armaments; but that consummation is not less desirable to-day, when the weight of the burden has been enormously increased. In 1898 it was already